

Final Daniels Canyon study planned

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VERNAL — A public tour and open house are planned this spring for the 2,300-acre Daniels Canyon Wilderness Study area near Dinosaur National Monument as the Vernal District of the Bureau of Land Management begins its final evaluation of the area for possible wilderness designation.

Lloyd Ferguson, district manager, said Daniels Canyon will be examined closely to determine resource values and impacts of wilderness designation vs. non-designation. The district must amend the existing land management plan by October 1982 to

incorporate recommendations for or against a wilderness designation for Daniels Canyon.

Altogether, Utah's five BLM districts are now beginning final evaluation of a remaining 2.6 million acres, which is about 12 percent of their original wilderness study acreage.

When the studies are completed, the BLM will prepare a statewide environmental impact statement on the range of wilderness activities to be submitted to the BLM director by September 1984.

Public comment will be accepted

throughout the wilderness study process.

Ferguson said factors to be considered in the Daniels Canyon study are quality of the wilderness values, manageability as a wilderness area, energy and mineral resource values, impacts on other resources, effects on local economics and social values, and consistency with state and local land-use policies.

For more information or to submit comments, contact Earle Smith, Team Leader, Bureau of Land Management, 170 S. Fifth East, Vernal, Utah, or telephone 789-1362.